

Stem Changing BOOT VERBS



What is a stem?

- A stem is the part of the verb without the ending.
- For example, let's look at the following verb:

HABL is the stem ~~HABL~~ ~~AR~~ AR is the ending

What is a stem?

VERBOS

BUSCAR ~~AR~~

ENTRAR ~~AR~~

TENER ~~ER~~

VENIR ~~IR~~

STEMS

BUSC

ENTR

TEN

VEN



¡quítala!
(take it off)

stem **CHANGING** verbs

- This means that when we conjugate the verb, the spelling changes just a little bit in the stem of the word.
- There are multiple kinds of changes, but today we are talking about:

E to IE changes



E to IE changes

- when the **E** in the verb changes to an **IE**

PENSAR → (yo) **PIENSO**

- Sometimes, there is more than one **E** in a single stem; always change the **2nd**

PREFE**RIR** → (yo) **PREFIERO**

PENSAR



SINGULAR	PLURAL
yo pienso	nosotros pensamos
tú piensas	vosotros pensáis
él ella piensa usted	ellos ellas piensan ustedes

Changes in the BOOT ONLY!

PREFERIR



SINGULAR	PLURAL
yo prefiero	nosotros preferemos
tú prefieres	vosotros preferís
él ella prefiere usted	ellos ellas prefieren ustedes

Changes in the BOOT ONLY!

QUERER



SINGULAR	PLURAL
yo quiero	nosotros queremos
tú quieres	vosotros quereís
él ella quiere usted	ellos ellas quieren ustedes

Changes in the BOOT ONLY!

E to IE changing verbs

pensar - to think

preferir - to prefer **our words to focus on**

querer - to want

Other words that change the same way:

cerrar - to close

despertar(se) - to wake up

empezar - to begin

nevar - to snow

recomendar - to recommend

sugerir - to suggest

comenzar - to begin

divertir(se) - to have fun

mentir - to lie

perder - to lose

sentar - to sit

To summarize...

- E → IE in the PRESENT tense in all forms *but* the nosotros and vosotros
- If there is more than one E present in the stem, change the second one
 - example: pref**E**rir
- Not all verbs are stem changers



Para practicar

1. I prefer the green sweater.

(Yo) Prefiero el suéter verde.

2. ¿Do you all want the T-shirts?

¿Quieren (ustedes) las camisetas?

3. We think a lot in Spanish class.

(Nosotros) Pensamos mucho en la clase de español.

4. I think that they want new shoes.

(Yo) Pienso que ellos quieren zapatos nuevos.





Para practicar más,
haz clic aquí.

To practice more,
click here.

(Some of the verbs in this practice activity we have not discussed, but the same stem-changing rules apply.)